

# Washington

## MERRY-GO-ROUND

By Drew Pearson

(The author of this column is given the widest latitude. His views do not necessarily reflect those of THE MIRROR.)

WASHINGTON, June 17.—

The naughty words have finally been uttered in the Salk vaccine controversy. They were said by Health Secretary Oveta Culp Hobby when she testified this week before the Senate Labor and Welfare Committee.

Criticizing the Democratic bill to supply Salk vaccine free to all children under 20 years of age, Mrs. Hobby charged that such a plan smacked of "socialized medicine."

For weeks Mrs. Hobby and some Congressmen have been skirting all around these words. They have been trying to avoid the fact that the Canadian government has administered the Salk vaccine itself. It pooled vaccine production in one laboratory under direct government supervision. It was pure socialized medicine. They have had no deaths.

Mrs. Hobby and congressional friends have also skirted around the fact that Dr. Salk nine months ago tried to get the drug companies to start making his vaccine, but under the current system of "non-socialized medicine," only one firm would do it. The National Polio Foundation had to place \$9,000,000 in advance orders to get the vaccine started.

Some Senators have gone so far in avoiding the forbidden words "socialized medicine" that for a time only one Republican would attend the meetings called by Sen. Lister Hill of Alabama. Some of them wanted to delay his bill providing free vaccine to all children under 20.

Finally, when this column called attention to the consistent absences of Alexander Smith, N. J.; Goldwater, Ariz.; Bender, Ohio; and Allott, Colo., attendance picked up and chairman Hill was able to get a quorum.

Inner committee debate since then has revolved around the question of whether vaccine shall be provided for all children under 20, as urged by the Democrats, or merely needy children under 20 as urged by the Republicans. The latter is the Eisenhower plan and would provide for 22 per cent of the children.

The difference in this appropriation to save lives is about \$95,000,000.

### Washington Pipeline

There's at least one friend of Dean Acheson whom the Eisenhower Administration hasn't fired from his job. His son-in-law, William F. Buckley, Jr., is an expert on the National Se-

curity Council which holds super-secret meetings on the highest level and recommends foreign-military policy to Ike. Acheson's son-in-law, however, continues to sit in its secret councils. He's not only an able man, but his father, a Republican, was Assistant Secretary of State under Stimson. . . Ex-Sen. John Sherman Cooper of Kentucky, now Ambassador to India, urged Ike to have a long and cordial session with Krishna Menon, the Indian diplomat who has not always been friendly to the U.S.A. Ike sandwiched him in between a meeting of GOP congressional leaders and a courtesy-curiosity call by winners of Amvet scholarships, but promised to talk with him again later.

...Hubert Humphrey of Minn. was among the few Senators who voted for attaching the Davis-Bacon Act prevailing wage standards to the new highway bill. Most Democratic Senators ducked recorded vote.

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